

Last week, Congressman Blumenauer met with Martin Daum, CEO of Daimler Trucks North America, to discuss ways to improve the tax structure for domestic heavy-duty truck manufacturing. Oregon is home to Daimler, the largest heavy-duty truck manufacturer in North America. The North Portland factory and office employs approximately 3000 people who build trucks for long-haul transport, regional distribution and construction, and school busses.

While Daimler has recovered from the economic downturn and continues to expand, there is currently a tax structure for truck manufacturing that discourages innovation in both fuel efficiency and truck design. Congressman Blumenauer plans to reintroduce legislation to replace the excise tax currently imposed on the sale of new trucks, trailers, and tractors, and replace it with a modest increase in the diesel fuel excise tax. This change would encourage innovation in the industry, promote job growth, bring greater stability to the Highway Trust Fund, and ensure that the U.S. can continue investing in our transportation system.